



State of Connecticut

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC UTILITY CONTROL

NEWS RELEASE

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DPUC Calls for Voluntary Energy Conservation During Heat Wave

The Department of Public Utility Control joins with ISO New England, the operator of the region's electric grid, in calling for voluntary energy conservation to keep the electricity on during the heat wave and reminds the public that the critical period in any heat wave is from 1 to 8 p.m.

The Department notes that this request is presently voluntary in hopes that mandatory action will not be needed. The Department has contacted more than 20 other state agencies, all of which will take many of the actions that are being asked of Connecticut's residents and businesses.

There are several things that residents and businesses can do to reduce the strain on the electric system. Among these are:

- Turn up the temperature on air conditioning closer to 78 degrees
- Turn air conditioning off when not at home or in any portion of a business building not being used and after hours where possible
- Close blinds/drapes to keep the sun's heat out
- Turn off any equipment not needed
- Turn off all non-essential lighting fixtures
- Use major home appliances (washers/dryers/dishwasher and wherever possible stoves) before 8 a.m. and after 8 p.m.
- If you have a pool, turn off the filter until 8 p.m.

ISO New England is predicting record-breaking electricity usage during the present heat wave. The Department offers these suggestions, which it has implemented in its own offices, to aid Connecticut's electric customers to conserve energy and remain safe during this period.